

Free Trade Area of the Americas -FTAA-

**Seventh Ministerial Meeting
November 1,2002**

Information for the Press

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Quito, Ecuador**

*(The information in this pamphlet is also available on the webpage of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs: www.mmrree.gov.ec)*

FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS -FTAA-

SEVENTH MINISTERIAL MEETING, 1 NOVEMBER 2002

ACCREDITATION FOR ECUADORIAN AND FOREIGN JOURNALISTS AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES

The Communications Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to inform media representatives, photographers, and international news agencies intending to cover the Seventh Ministerial Meeting of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), to be held in Quito on 1 November 2002, that they need to request accreditation by sending the attached form with a photograph to the Office's e-mail address dgcomsoc@mmrree.gov.ec or by fax (252-2361, 254-8339). For more information, please call 256-1878.

Press cards will be distributed at the Communication Office on Friday 25 October and Monday 28 through Thursday 31 October, from 8:30 to 13:00 and 14:30 to 17:00, as well as on Friday 1 November until 12 noon.

Quito, 2 October 2002

NEWS COVERAGE

Accredited Ecuadorian and foreign journalists may cover the ***Inaugural Ceremony of the Seventh Ministerial Meeting of the FTAA***, to be held in the Gran Salón Amazonas of the Hotel Marriot, Friday 1 November, at 9:00, as well as the ***press conference*** that will be held the same day at the close of the Ministerial Meeting.

ACCESS

Journalists wishing to gain access to the hotel and the rooms where the events will be held must wear the press badge issued by this office and present a personal ID. No exceptions will be made.

ADDRESS:

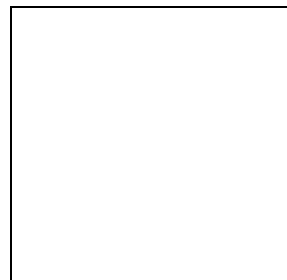
Gran Salón Amazonas
JW Marriott Hotel
Orellana 1172 y Av. Amazonas
Telephone: (5932) 2972000
Quito, Ecuador

PASSES

SEVENTH FTAA MINISTERIAL MEETING

ACCREDITATION FORM FOR ECUADORIAN AND FOREIGN JOURNALISTS AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES

Quito, Ecuador
1 November 2002



Name/Nombre _____

Country/País _____

Passport Number/Número de Pasaporte/Cédula _____

Title/Cargo _____

Media organization/Medio de Comunicación _____

Address/Dirección _____

Telephone/Teléfono _____ Fax _____

E-mail/Correo electrónico _____

*Please complete this form and send to the Dirección General de Comunicación Social del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores del Ecuador, either by e-mail (dgcomsoc@mrrree.gov.ec) or by fax (593 2 2522361 2548339). Telephone: (593-2) 2561878; address: Av. 10 de Agosto y Jerónimo Carrión (ground floor).

*To pick up your press badge, you must show an ID, and submit a letter from the news organization you work for, a photocopy of your passport (in the case of foreign journalists), and an additional photo.

INTERNATIONAL PRESS

List of Film Material and Equipment to be brought in

Type of Equipment:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Model:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Series:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Value:	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Type of Equipment -2-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Model -2-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Series -2-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Value -2-:	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Type of Equipment -3-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Model -3-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Series -3-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Value -3-:	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Type of Equipment -4-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Model -4-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Series -4-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Value -4-:	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Type of Equipment -5-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Model -5-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Series -5-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Value -5-:	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Type of Equipment -6-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Model -6-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Series -6-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Value -6-:	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Type of Equipment -7-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Model -7-:	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>

Series -7-:	
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Bottom of Form 1

Letter from news organization authorizing request for accreditation:	Will be faxed <input type="text" value="Será enviada vía fax"/>
Copy of passport (foreign journalists)	Select <input type="text" value="Selecione"/>
Two photographs (recent, ID size)	Must be presented in person <input type="text" value="Solo se receptan personalmente"/>

General Information

Ecuador is located in the northwestern part of South America, astraddle the equator, which separates the northern and southern Hemispheres. It borders Colombia to the north, and Peru to the south and the east. To the west lies the Pacific Ocean. The country covers an area of 256,370 square kilometers. It is divided into four regions: the coast, the mountains, the Amazon, and its islands. These four regions are, in turn, are broken down into 22 provinces. The climate is different in each of the four regions, depending on altitude, location, and, most importantly, degree of influence by the Andes and the ocean. Its varied range of climates has fostered very diverse flora and fauna, with thousands of different species amid extensive natural reserves, making Ecuador one of 17 most biodiverse countries.

Ecuador is a multiethnic and multicultural nation, with a population of over 12.6 million.

VENUE

The meeting will be held at the JW Marriott, on Avenida Amazonas, 15 minutes from the Mariscal Sucre International Airport. The address of the hotel is:

JW MARRIOTT HOTEL, Quito, Ecuador

Orellana 1172 y Av. Amazonas

Telephone: (593-2) 297-2000

Fax: (593-2) 2972050

Webpage: www.marriott.com

VISA REQUIREMENTS

Ecuador has visa waiver agreements with most of the countries of the Hemisphere. However, citizens of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua holding ordinary passports do need visas.

DEPARTURE AND AIRPORT TAXES

The airport departure tax is USD25.

LODGING

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Journalists interested in covering the Seventh Ministerial Meeting must make their own hotel reservations. The following list of hotels and their addresses is provided as a guide (the prefix for dialing Ecuador from overseas is 593 2).

- Akros Hotel

Av. 6 de diciembre N 34-120

Tel: 2430600/2430636

Fax: 2431727

E-mail: akros@hotelakros.com

- Hotel Crowne Plaza

Av. Los Shyris 1757 y Naciones Unidas

Tel: 2445305/2251666

Fax: 2251958

E-mail: admihotel@accessinter.net

- Alameda Real
Ramón Roca 653 y Amazonas
Tel: 2562345
Fax: 2565759
E-mail: apartec@uio.satnet.net

- Hotel Quito
Av. González Suárez 2500
Tel: 2544600
Fax: 2567284
E-mail: hotelquito@orotels.com

- Hotel Radisson
Luis Cordero 444 y Av. 12 de octubre
Tel: 2233333/
Fax: 2235777
E-mail: reservas@radisson.com.ec

- Hotel República
Av. República y Azuay
Tel: 2436553
Fax: 2437667
E-mail: hrep@impsat.net.ec

- Alameda Plaza
Av. 12 de octubre N 24-593 y Francisco Salazar
Tel: 2564456
Fax: 2564563
E-mail: Apartec@uio.satnet.net

- Hotel Windsor
Roca 668 y Av. Amazonas
Tel: 2224033/2564548
Fax: 2564464
E-mail: www.windsorhotel.com.ec

-Hotel La Colina suites
La Colina N26-119 y Av. Orellana
Tel: 2234678
Fax: 2566189
E-mail: hotel@lacolinasuites.com

-Hotel Howard Johnson
Alemania y República
Tel: 2265265
Fax: 2264264
E-mail: comercial@andinanet.net

LOCATION:

Quito is situated 13 km. south of the equator and 9,200 feet (2,850 m.) above sea level. It is a city where there is no slant to the sun's rays, and constellations from both hemispheres are visible in the night sky.

CLIMATE:

The city's climate ranges from humid, in the south, to dry, in the north; median temperature ranges from 12° to 14° C (54° to 57° F).

LANGUAGE:

The official language of Ecuador is Spanish; Quichua and other indigenous languages are part of the nation's cultural heritage.

CURRENCY:

Ecuador implemented a dollarization plan in 2000 under which the U.S. dollar was adopted as its currency.

BANKING SERVICES:

Banks, foreign exchange, and credit cards

Hotels, restaurants, and department stores accept travelers checks and major credit cards. Commercial banks are generally open from Monday to Friday, 9:00 to 17:00. Certain currencies may be exchanged for U.S. dollars at banks and money-exchange establishments. Identification is required. Only banks and money-exchange establishments guarantee the official exchange rate, which is published in major newspapers.

ELECTRICITY:

Electricity is 110 volts, 60 cycles, throughout the country.